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THE USUAL
CEREMONY

OBSERVED BY
The Lord High Steward
AND *R King (Grey)*
Peers of **GREAT BRITAIN,**

THE
Officers of the **COURT,**
THEIR
ASSISTANTS and ATTENDANTS,

ON THE
Arraignment and Trial of some **PEER or**
PEERESS *of the Nation, for* **TREASON or**
FELONY, *or some other great Crime.*



L O N D O N:

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Lord High Steward, &c.



ON the Day of Trial, early in the Morning, the Judges in their Robes, together with Garter King of Arms, the Usher of the Black Rod, and the Serjeant at Arms, are to wait on the Lord High Steward, at his House; Garter in his Coat of the King's Arms, Black Rod having the White Staff, and the Serjeant at Arms his Mace: The three last wait in an Apartment while the Judges go in to the Lord High Steward to pay their Compliments to his Grace, (for so he is to be called on these Occasions.)

After a short Stay and Collation, his Grace comes down and goes to his Coach in the following Order:

His Grace's Gentlemen two and two uncovered.

His Serjeant at Arms and Seal-Bearer (if he be Lord

Lord Chancellor or Lord Keeper) both uncovered, one with his Mace, and the other with the Purse.

The Black Rod, with the Lord High Steward's Staff, and Garter King of Arms on his Right Hand, in his Coat of Arms, both uncovered.

His Grace the Lord High Steward, in his usual Habit (unless he be Lord Chancellor or Lord Keeper, and then in his rich Gown, his Train born,) followed by the Chief Justices and Judges.

His Grace seats himself on the hinder Seat of the Coach singly, Garter and the Seal-Bearer on the other Seat over-against his Grace uncovered, the Black Rod in the Right Hand Boot of the Coach, with his Grace's White Staff, and his Grace's Serjeant at Arms in the Left Boot with his Mace; his Grace's Gentlemen go in the leading Coaches, and the Judges follow his Grace in their own Coaches.

When the Trial is by special Commission, a Messenger is to be sent some Time before, to acquaint the Lords the Tryers (who are to assemble in or near the House of Peers) that his Grace is coming, in order to their taking their respective Seats in the Court before his Grace enters.

But if the Trial be in Parliament, his Grace, with the Judges, &c. pass to the *Old Palace Yard*, and so up the Stairs to the House of Peers, passing through the painted Chamber.

The Peers being in their Robes, and the Mace deposited

deposited upon the uppermost Woolfack, his Grace passes on to the Lord Chancellor's Room, or to his Grace's Chamber; but the Staff is not to be brought within the House of Peers.

His Grace having reposed a while, comes into the House again, and Prayers begin. Then the Peers are to be called over by one of the Clerks Assistants of the House, Garter or his Deputy being allowed to come to the Clerks Table to make a List at the same time of the Peers present; which done, and the Black Rod being sent to see that the Court in *Westminster-Hall* and the Passages to it were clear, and giving an Account to the House that they are so, then they proceed towards *Westminster-Hall*, in the following Manner:

His Grace the Lord High Steward's Gentlemen Attendants two and two.

The Clerks Assistant to the House of Lords, and the Clerk of the Parliament.

The two Clerks of the Crown, bearing the Commission of the Lord High Steward.

Masters in Chancery, two and two.

Attorney General.

Judges.

Peers eldest Sons not Members of the House of Commons.

Peers Minors.

Four Serjeants at Arms with their Maces, two and two.

The Yeoman Usher of the House of Peers.

The Peers according to their Degrees and Precedency, by two and two, (the youngest Barons first) all covered.

Four Serjeants at Arms more, with their Maces, two and two.

His Grace's Seal-Bearer and Serjeant at Arms.

The Black Rod and Garter, or his Deputy.

The Lord High Steward alone, covered, his Train borne.

The Lords being seated on their Benches, and the Judges and Masters in Chancery below on their Seats; the Lord High Steward making a Reverence to the State, and saluting the Peers, seats himself on the Woolfack as Speaker of the House of Lords.

The two Clerks of the Crown are to be ready at the Clerks Table, and the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, having the King's Commission to his Grace in his Hand, they both make three Reverences to him, and at the third, coming before the Woolfack, they kneel down, and the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery on his Knee, presents the Commission to his Grace, who delivers it to the Clerk of the Crown in the King's Bench; and they making three Reverences, return to the Clerks Table: The Clerk of the Crown in the King's Bench opens the Commission and reads it, having first directed his

his Grace's Serjeant at Arms to make Proclamation for Silence, which he is to do with his Mace upon his Shoulder.

While the Commission is reading, his Grace and the Lords stand up, all uncovered; after which his Grace making a Bow, reseats himself, and then Garter and the Black Rod, with three Reverences, jointly present the White Staff on their Knees to his Grace; and being thus fully invested in his Office, he, with the White Staff in his Hand, removes from the Woolfack to the Chair placed for him, on an Ascent before the Throne of State, and there sits down. After which, Proclamation is made for the Chief Governor of the Tower of *London* to return the Precept to him directed, with the Body or Bodies of the Prisoner or Prisoners into Court: Which being done, the Gentleman Goaler of the Tower brings his Prisoner or Prisoners to the Bar; and Proclamation being made for the King's Evidence to come forth, the King's Council, by his Grace's Direction, are to begin to open the Indictment, and then the Trial goes on; which being over, and the Prisoner withdrawn, his Grace puts the Question, *If the Prisoner be Guilty or Not Guilty*; asking the Lords severally, beginning at the youngest Baron, whose Opinions he notes down, and then delivers his own; after which he declares how many say *Guilty*, and how many *Not Guilty*. Then the Prisoner is brought to the Bar, and his Grace declaring to the Prisoner the Judgment of the Court, Proclamation is made for dissolving the Commission; which ended, his Grace stands

Four Serjeants at Arms with their Maces, two and two.

The Yeoman Usher of the House of Peers.

The Peers according to their Degrees and Precedency, by two and two, (the youngest Barons first) all covered.

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stands up, having received the White Staff from Garter and the Black Rod, he holds the same in both his Hands, breaks it, and so dissolves his great Commission.

Ex. Cart. M. S. Greg. King. Lancast. Fecial.

F I N I S.

